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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,746	07/14/2003	Tatsuya Shimoda	109486.01	3044
25944	7590	12/01/2004	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			NGUYEN, TUAN H	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2813	

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/617,746

Applicant(s)

SHIMODA ET AL.

Examiner

Tuan H. Nguyen

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/856,852.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/14/03
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 5-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In claim 5, lines 3-4 of last paragraph, it is unclear as how could "a plurality of second pixel sections be arranged in the first EL display element"? Does applicant mean -- in the second EL display element-- ?

In claim 6, lines 5-6, does applicant mean -- each of the third pixel sections being capable of emitting lights --?

Claim 14, lines 2-3, "said first section" is confusing and indefinite since it is unclear as to whether the "first circuit section" or "first pixel section" it is referred to.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 5-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Boisdron et al. (cited by applicant).

See Boisdron et al., figs. 1-5 and related text on col. 1-4 which discloses the claimed method for manufacturing an EL panel including the steps of disposing a first EL

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display element 1 above the substrate 20, wherein a plurality of first pixel sections 10 are arranged in the first EL display element 1, each of the first pixel sections is capable of emitting lights, and a first circuit section 3 controls the emissions of the first pixel sections; and disposing a second EL display element 1 having a plurality of second pixel sections 10 above the substrate so as to be arranged adjacent to the first EL display element, wherein a plurality of second pixel sections are arranged in the second EL display element, each of the second pixel sections is capable of emitting lights, wherein the first circuit sections 3 and the second EL display element overlap with each other such that a pitch between adjacent ones of the first pixel sections and the second pixel sections is approximately constant with a pitch between adjacent ones of the first pixel sections Fig. 2 and text on col. 3, second to third paragraph).

With respect to claim 6, see fig. 2 for showing the third EL display element.

With respect to claim 8, col. 3, lines 26-42 discloses substrate (housing) 20 of glass so it is transparent.

With respect to claim 9, EL display elements are adjoined by gluing to the housing 20 (col. 3, last paragraph).

With respect to claim 10, see figs. 1a-1b which show the connection of the first circuit section 3 and the first pixel sections 10 to each other; and bending the first circuit section 3 such that the first circuit section 3 overlaps with the second EL display element as shown in fig. 2.

With respect to claim 12, fig. 1b shows the thickness of first circuit section 3 is thinner than that of the first pixel sections 10.

Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Namiki et al. (cited by applicant).

See Namiki et al., figs. 1-4 and related text on col. 2-4 which discloses the claimed manufacturing method of an EL panel including the steps of forming a layer 21 for filling a gap between the second EL display element 2 and the circuit section 15 (fig. 4).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-4 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: None of the references of record teaches or suggests the claimed method for manufacturing a large EL panel including the steps of removing the EL display devices from a sub transparent substrate and arranging the EL display devices on a main transparent substrate; disposing and fixing the circuit section of the TFT layer, which is disposed at a region outside the light emitting area, behind an adjacent EL display device.

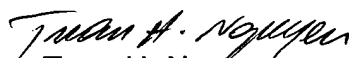
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Izumi, and Salerno et al. are cited as of interest.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan H. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1694. The examiner can normally be reached on 9AM-5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Carl Whitehead Jr. can be reached on 571-272-1702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Tuan H. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
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